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Convention on the Rights of the Child

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**Committee on the Rights of the Child**
**Seventy-sixth session**
11-29 September 2017
Item 4 of the provisional agenda
**Consideration of reports of States parties**

# List of issues in relation to the report submitted by Vanuatu under article 8 (1) of the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict

The State party is requested to submit in writing additional, updated information (10,700 words maximum), if possible before 16 June 2017. The Committee may take up all aspects of children's rights set out in the Convention during the dialogue with the State party.

1. Please provide information on any steps taken to incorporate the provisions of the Optional Protocol into domestic law. Please also inform the Committee of whether the Optional Protocol has been invoked before the courts during the past four years.

2. Please provide information on any measures taken by the State party to disseminate the Optional Protocol and implement awareness-raising programmes. Please also provide information on training activities related to the Optional Protocol for children and professionals working for and with children.

3. Please provide information on the measures taken to address the lack of a system for collecting disaggregated data in the State party.

4. In view of the fact that not all children are in possession of a birth certificate, please explain what safeguards and practical measures for age verification are in place to prevent children from joining the police force before the age of 18 years.

5. Please comment on whether the State party intends to criminalize the recruitment of children under 18 years of age by non-State armed groups, in accordance with article 4 of the Optional Protocol.

6. Please provide information on whether the State party has established and exercises extraterritorial jurisdiction, without applying the criterion of double criminality, over all crimes under the Optional Protocol. Please also comment on whether the State party has included offences under the Optional Protocol in existing extradition treaties with other States and whether it intends to do so in extradition treaties it will conclude in the future.

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